

The Utah Interpreter Program presents the Interpreter Certification Advancement Network ICAN



State of Utah
Division of Services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Applications are now being accepted for the
Interpreter Certification Advancement Network (ICAN) program!

The Utah Interpreter Program (UIP), within the Division of Services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DSDHH), has designed the ICAN program to address the long term needs of expanding and retaining the pool of interpreters in Utah. The ICAN program will offer intensive mentoring based out of the Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (Sanderson Center), in Taylorsville, Utah.

ICAN consists of a team of language mentors and interpreter mentors working together with program participants who are striving to advance their certification status and become better interpreters.

ICAN will enhance participating interpreters' language development and comprehension by bringing them together with language mentors, Deaf adults who are native ASL users and act as language models. Participants will also learn how to identify areas of improvement through guidance from interpreter mentors, who will lead participants through the interpreting process.

Fifteen interpreter candidates who are working at the Novice or EIPA certification levels will be selected into the program. All will start and complete the program together with the goal of improving the quality of their work and ultimately achieving certification which adheres to state policy and allows interpreters to work in Utah.

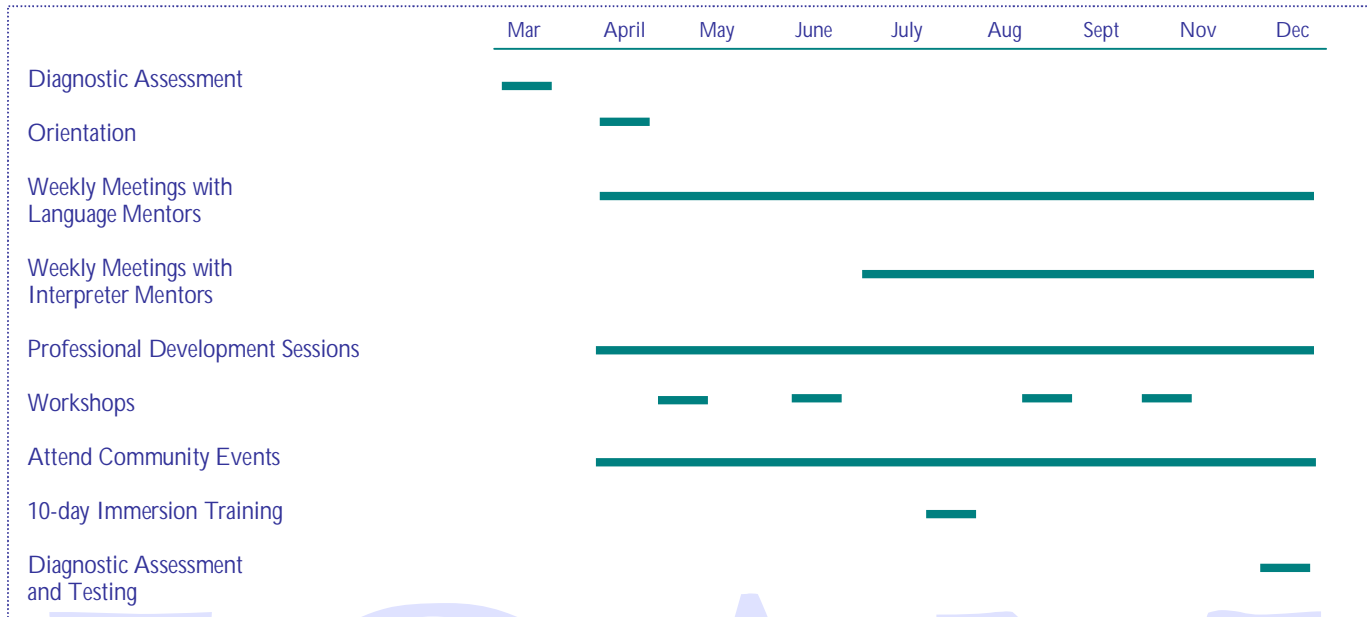
The program will begin with a complete diagnostic analysis of each interpreter's work sample, from which a report will be generated to identify patterns and help to create an individualized professional development plan. Four specialized workshops and monthly professional development sessions will be held, which will address those patterns that most need attention. Workshops and sessions will be held at the Sanderson Center.

The structure of the program is focused on intensive mentoring, following the outlined structure:

- Participating interpreters will meet with language mentors weekly to discuss goals, tasks and activities focused on language development.
- Midway through the program, participating interpreters will begin to meet with interpreter mentors weekly to discuss goals, tasks, and activities focused on the interpreting process.
- Participating interpreters will be required to accompany interpreter mentors on interpreting assignments to gain experience in a team-interpreting situation and to gain experience in a wide variety of interpreting situations.
- Participating interpreters will attend a 10-day intensive immersion training at the Sanderson Center, taught in ASL.
- Opportunities to stay with a sponsor Deaf family in the area during the immersion training will be provided for those participating interpreters who wish to gain more exposure to Deaf Culture and ASL.
- Throughout the nine-month program, participating interpreters will be required to attend at least three Deaf community events with their language mentor.

After the completion of the program, all participating interpreters will take the Utah Intermediate Certification Exam. A post-program diagnostic assessment will also be performed so participating interpreters can identify their progress or specific skills that need continued development.

Timeline of ICAN Program



Benefits for ICAN Participating Interpreters

- No program fee
- Free pre/post diagnostic assessments
- Program materials provided at no cost
- Continuing Education Hours (CEHs) granted for all workshops, professional development sessions, and immersion training
- No testing fees for the Utah Intermediate Certification Performance Exam
- \$500 stipend to cover expenses incurred while in the program (travel, meals, child care, Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) membership)
- On-the-job mentoring alongside qualified interpreter mentors
- Access to state-of-the-art filming equipment and UIP interpreter lab

Program Obligations

The ICAN Program is designed for interpreters who are currently working in the State of Utah. ICAN expects to accept participants who are committed to staying in Utah after completing the program. Upon acceptance, ICAN will require all participants to sign an obligation contract as their commitment to the sponsored program.

The candidates selected for the program will be obligated to:

- become Associate Members of RID
- successfully complete all of the program requirements, and
- work for one year as an interpreter in the state of Utah upon completion of the program.

In the event a candidate does not complete the program because of personal choice or dismissal, he or she will be obligated to repay the funds used for their sponsorship. If he or she chooses not to work as an interpreter in Utah for one year following the completion of the program, he or she will be required to repay the funds received.

Want More Information?

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